

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

Q<sup>2</sup> In one example, the keycode may comprise a digital signature and/or encryption by the claimant as is commonly understood in the art and as described at ~~<http://www.alphatrust.com/products/digital-ID.asp>~~. Digital signatures can be provided by third parties and are for example available from VeriSign (~~at <http://www.verisign.com>~~) or Silanis Technology (~~at <http://www.silanis.com>~~). In one example, the digital signature comprises a code representing a "digital fingerprint" that is unique for the particular document. The digital signature also may contain information about the application of the signature, for example the time, date and place of signature, who made the signature, and how it was made, etc. The digital signature may be embedded in the document at a native binary level in order that it is hidden without affecting the compatibility of the file.